

National Cancer Survivors Day® is an annual, worldwide Celebration of Life that is held in hundreds of communities throughout the United States, Canada, and other participating countries. Participants unite in symbolic event to show the world that life after a cancer diagnosis can be a reality.

STATISTICS*

- As of January 1, 2006, it is estimated that there are 11.4 million cancer survivors in the U.S. – representing approximately 3.8% of the population.
- 60% of survivors are currently 65 years of age and older.
- Female breast (23%), prostate (20%), colorectal (10%), and gynecologic (9%) are the most common cancer sites of survivors.
- Approximately 14% of the 11.4 million estimated cancer survivors were diagnosed over 20 years ago.

*National Cancer Institute

INCREASES IN CANCER SURVIVORSHIP ARE DUE TO:

- Advances in cancer detection and early diagnosis
- More aggressive and effective treatments
- Enhanced rehabilitative and support interventions
- Active screening and healthier lifestyles by survivors and those at risk

WHO IS A CANCER SURVIVOR?

The National Cancer Survivors Day Foundation defines a “survivor” as anyone living with a history of cancer – from the moment of diagnosis through the remainder of life.

RESOURCES

American Cancer Society – Cancer Survivors Network
www.cancer.org

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Cancer Survivorship
www.cdc.gov/cancer/survivorship

Lance Armstrong Foundation
www.laf.org

National Cancer Institute – Office of Cancer Survivorship
<http://survivorship.cancer.gov>

National Cancer Survivors Day Foundation
www.ncsdf.org

The National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship
www.canceradvocacy.org

Michigan Department
of Community Health

M DCH
Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor
Janet Olszewski, Director

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CANCER SURVIVORS

The **American Cancer Society** offers a range of practical and emotional services for cancer patients, their families, their caregivers, and their communities from the time of diagnosis throughout life. Listed below are some of the services available through the American Cancer Society. For more information, please contact www.cancer.org or 1-800-ACS-2345.

CANCER SURVIVORS NETWORKSM	Created by and for cancer survivors and their families, this “virtual” community offers unique opportunities and accessibility to survivors, caregivers, and all those touched by cancer. It is a welcoming, safe place for people to find hope and inspiration from others who have “been there.” Services include radio talk show conversations and interviews, individual stories, personal Web pages, discussion forums, and Expression Gallery.
I CAN COPE[®]	Adult cancer patients and their loved ones learn ways to navigate their cancer experience while building their knowledge, coping skills, and positive attitudes. In this series of educational classes, doctors and other health care professionals provide information, encouragement, and practical tips in a supportive environment.
HOPE LODGE[®]	This home-like environment provides free, temporary sleeping accommodations for cancer patients undergoing treatment and their family members. It makes the cancer treatment process a little easier by providing a supportive environment and lifting the financial burden of an extended stay.
“TLC” TENDER LOVING CARE[®]	A magazine and catalog in one, “tlc” supports women dealing with hair loss and other physical effects of cancer treatment. The magalog offers a wide variety of affordable products, such as wigs, hats, and prostheses, through the privacy and convenience of mail order.
LOOK GOOD...FEEL BETTER[®]	Through this free service, women in active cancer treatment learn techniques to restore their self-image and cope with appearance-related side effects. Certified beauty professionals provide tips on makeup, skin care, nail care, and head coverings. This program is a partnership among the American Cancer Society, the Cosmetic, Toiletry, and Fragrance Association Foundation and the National Cosmetology Association.
ROAD TO RECOVERYSM	This service assists cancer patients and their families with transportation to and from treatment facilities. Volunteer drivers donate their time and resources to take patients to appointments and to return them to their homes.
REACH TO RECOVERY[®]	Breast cancer survivors provide one-on-one support and information to help individuals cope with breast cancer. Specially trained survivors serve as volunteers, responding in person or by phone to the concerns of people facing breast cancer diagnosis, treatment, recurrence, or recovery.
MAN TO MAN[®]	This comfortable, community-based setting for discussion and education provides men facing prostate cancer with support individually or in groups. Man to Man [®] also offers men the opportunity to educate their communities about prostate cancer.